



Annual giving drive begins

It's beginning to look ... well you know the rest of the saying.

Decorations have been hung and there has certainly been a chill in the air as the Christmas season approaches.

Once again, the “elves” of the Kansas Department of Administration are busy working to gather goods for organizations that serve the Greater Topeka area. The three groups selected this year are the Downtown Sandwich Ministry, the Topeka Rescue Mission and the Helping Hands Humane Society.

From now through December 18, donations are being collected in boxes

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Holiday Giving 2015 to benefit 3 groups in Greater Topeka

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located throughout the Capitol Complex. Those sites are Curtis State Office Building, Docking State Office Building, Eisenhower State Office Building, Landon State Office Building, Kansas Judicial Center, 1020 S. Kansas Avenue, the Sixth Floor of the 800 South Jackson Building and the Visitor Center of the Kansas Statehouse.

Items will be distributed to the organizations on Monday, December 21. Items that are being sought are as follows:

Downtown Sandwich Ministry

Fold-top sandwich bags

No. 8 paper lunch bags (larger lunch size)

Sandwich cookies

Individual-sized bags of chips such as Lays varieties or Doritos

Topeka Rescue Mission

Non-perishable food such as creamed soups, tuna, oats,
canned vegetables, coffee, chicken broth, peanut butter, pan-
cake syrup

Infant formula, baby food

Helping Hands Humane Society

Dry or canned pet food

Small, chewy pet treats

Gently used towels

Dog and cat toys



WANT TO HELP?

The Department of Administration is involved in a number of volunteer activities. For more information, go to the Community Service link on our home page at <http://www.admin.ks.gov/>



Wilcox recognized with Employee of Quarter award

Laura Wilcox was honored Nov. 9 as the Department of Administration's Employee of the Quarter for the third quarter of 2015.

Wilcox works in the Chief Financial Officer's Division handling the State Revolving Loan Program. She was recognized for her efforts to manage the program and help local units of government access funds to make critical infrastructure improvements in their communities.

Wilcox was honored during the quarterly ceremony held in the Old Secretary of State's Office in the Kansas Statehouse. She was presented with the award by Gov. Sam Brownback and Sarah L. Shipman, Acting Secretary of the Department of Administration.

The Employee of the Quarter award is presented four times a year to state employees who have demonstrated excellence in public service.

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Meet Randy Moessner



Facilities and Property Management

Position:

Custodial Specialist

Job Duties:

Working on the Third Floor
of the Kansas Statehouse

How long you've been with D of A:

Since December 10, 2012

Favorite part of your job:

The people. And working during the legislative session.

Favorite hobby:

Driving.

How you would spend an ideal day off:

Sleeping.



A note from the Secretary...

It's that time of year again where friends, families and every organization stops to reflect on the accomplishments of the previous 12 months. Our agency is no exception and we have much to be proud of for what we accomplished in 2015, as well as the foundations that were laid for a successful 2016.

One theme that runs throughout the year is transitions. We have said goodbye to Secretary Jim Clark who served the Department of Administration for two years. His leadership served the agency and the State of Kansas well and we wish him the best in his retirement.

In the area of Systems Management, we transitioned two of our largest programs to hosted environments. The State's SMART and SHARP systems completed their moves in November, while earlier in the year SMART was upgraded. The result will be better service for agencies and efficiencies that will ultimately benefit the taxpayer.

The Chief Counsel's Office helped the State take steps to improve the health of the Kansas Public Employee Retirement System. The successful sale of \$1 billion in bonds provides financial stability to KPERS and ensures that current and future employees are able to transition to their retirement.

Also, the agency drafted and implemented legislation providing State agencies with increased authority to fill new positions and offer current employees new opportunities in the unclassified service. The result will be better use of our human resources.

Our Facilities folks completed the move of State agencies from the Finney Building in Wichita to new facilities, as well as negotiated for the construction of a new energy center to service the Capitol Complex. The year also saw the completion of contracts with JE Dunn and Treanor Architects for the Statehouse renovation.

New in 2015 was South Steps Fridays, an event designed to kick off the weekend with music, food and other presentations about Kansas. Live music was provided through the University of Kansas School of Music and Reach Out Kansas. Plans are underway for the second season.

More will be shared in the December edition regarding the Financial Management and Chief Financial Officer's achievements in 2015.

I thank you all for the roles that you played in these accomplishments. It's your skill, dedication and expertise that helps make the State of Kansas function at a high level and serve the residents well. Have a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Sarah